International Application No. PCT/NL2004/000496 PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT Page 16

## ABSTRACT

Electronic voting system and method for collecting and counting votes from individual voters using electronic polling equipment. The system comprises means for validating votes from collected virtual ballot forms. The validating means are arranged in such way that if a set of two or more virtual ballot forms associated with an identical voter is collected, one virtual ballot form of this set is validated as one valid vote of the voter. The remaining virtual ballot forms of the set are marked as duplicate, provided the virtual ballot forms of the set are identical as to the subject elected by the voter. Otherwise all virtual ballot forms of the set are marked invalid. Thereby effectively preventing double counting of valid votes, among others, due to network problems causing a virtual ballet form to be forwarded twice or even many more times.

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International Application No. PCT/NL2004/000496
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
Page 17

Respectfully submitted,

Allen J. Hoover

Reg. No. 24,103

Wood, Phillips, Katz, Clark & Mortimer Citicorp Center, Suite 3800 500 West Madison Street Chicago, Illinois 60661-2511 Telephone (312) 876-1800 Facsimile (312) 876-2020 January 5, 2006